GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5364
ANSWERED ON:15.05.2007
HIKE IN CEMENT PRICES
Annayyagari Shri Sai Prathap;Khaire Shri Chandrakant Bhaurao;Madhwaraj Smt. Manorama;Mahato Shri Narahari;Meghwal Shri Kailash;Naik Shri Shripad Yasso;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin;Patil Smt. Rupatai Diliprao Nilangekar;Pradhan Shri Dharmendra

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cement producing companies of the country have increased consumer sale price of cement from March, 2007 onwards;

(b) if so, whether cement companies are reluctant to lower the cement prices despite the requests made by the Government;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government proposes to provide a package to the cement industry with a view to lowering the cement prices;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the additional financial burden likely to be borne by the Government due to this; and

(g) the extent to which cement prices are likely to come down, percentage-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b) & (C): The cement manufacturers have assured the Government on 9th March 2007 that they would not increase the price of cement for a period of one year even if input prices go up and they would pass on benefits of duty concession, if any, to consumers.

(d): No Sir.

(e) to (g): Do not arise.